—United Press International

A U.S. Army body-recovery unit flown to Georgetown, Guyana, prepares more victims of the mass Jonestown death scene for shipment to the United States yesterday. One man (left) jots down identification information while a woman member of the unit (right) helps carry one of the bodies.

Lane Kept Secrets on Cult, Lawyer Says

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Attorney Charles Garry, survivor of the Peoples Temple killings and suicides in the jungles of Guyana, said yesterday he would have been able to avert the "holocaust" if Mark Lane, another lawyer for the temple, had shared information he possessed.

At what some surviving members of the shattered Temple called their last news conference, Garry referred to an article quoting Lane as saying he knew mass suicides were being planned and that he knew food was drugged and guns were being amassed at the cults' Jonestown commune in Guyana.

"Had I known any of these things I think I would have been able to prevent the holocaust there," Garry said.

GARRY SAID he believed he could have talked the Rev. Jim Jones out of his plans or reported it to Guyanese authorities before it was too late.

Garry added, however, that he believes Lane "did not expect any of this to happen" when the two went to Jonestown with Rep. Leo Ryan, who was slain with four others in a prelude to the mass murder-suicide of Temple devotees.

"Mr. Lane's aim and purpose was the same as mine, for people to come there and see," Garry said. "There was no reason in the world for any of this to happen. It made no sense at all."

Still, he said, "Lane knew and he did not tell me until we were in the jungle lying on the ground for 14 hours."

GARRY SAID the reason was animosity between the two lawyers.

Surrounding Garry were a few remaining Temple members. Earlier, they had said the church would survive, but the latest news from Guyana, raising the number of dead to almost 800, had shaken their resolve.

Jean Brown, one of the most outspoken of Jones' supporters, said, "It's very difficult to tell what will be in the future. We'll continue to stand for what is right, whether we stand together or apart."

Hugh Fortson, who said he lost his wife and a child at Jonestown, indicated that he is leaving the church.

The members were compiling a list for the State Department of Temple members who went to Guyana